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Providence Human Relations Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2016

This open session of the Providence Human Relations Commission (PHRC) was held at Roger Williams University, 1 Empire Street, Room 232, Providence, RI.

Commissioners present: Chace Baptista (arrived 5:54pm), John Gaffney, Maria Monteiro, Lucy Rose, Raymond Watson (arrived 5:43pm), Cesar Teo, Matthieu Yangambi

Absent: Patricia LaSalle

PHRC Candidates present: Linda Fitzgerald, Kai LoMuscio, Jeff Prystowsky, Nittaya Saenbut, Celeste Terry-Lo

Staff present: Director Jen Stevens, Asst. City Solicitor Natasha Buckler

1. Call to Order/Introductions:

Jen called the meeting to order at 5:37pm. A quorum was established, as 5 of 8 commissioners were present. Jen welcomed commissioners and staff, the five candidates for the PHRC, and training presenters from the RI Commission for Human Rights: Executive Director Michael Evora and Investigator Jason Flanders.

2. Presentation by the RI Human Rights Commission

Executive Director Michael Evora presented an overview of the history, purpose, and practices of the RI Commission for Human Rights. Investigator Jason Flanders supported the presentation, and they offered examples of cases on which they had worked. Copies of the PowerPoint presentation were provided to all present. The training was free of charge and our two commissions plan to collaborate in the future.

Following the presentation, at 7:20pm, Commissioner Teo, guests, and presenters left. Six of 8 commissioners were then present.

3. Review of August 1, 2016 minutes and vote to accept/amend:

Commissioner Gaffney moved to accept the minutes. Commissioner Baptista seconded. All six commissioners voted in favor. The motion passed.

4. Review of August 4, 2016 minutes and vote to accept/amend:

Commissioner Yangambi moved to accept the minutes. Commissioner Baptista seconded. All six commissioners voted in favor. The motion passed.

5. Review of August 15, 2016 minutes and vote to accept/amend:

Commissioner Baptista moved to accept the minutes. Commissioner Monteiro seconded. All six commissioners voted in favor. The motion passed.

6. Election of PHRC Executive Committee:

Commissioner Rose moved to table the election for the next meeting because we were running late. Commissioner Monteiro seconded. All six commissioners voted in favor. The motion passed.

7. Upcoming meetings: Mon. 9/26 regular meeting, and Mon. 10/17 regular meeting.

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.